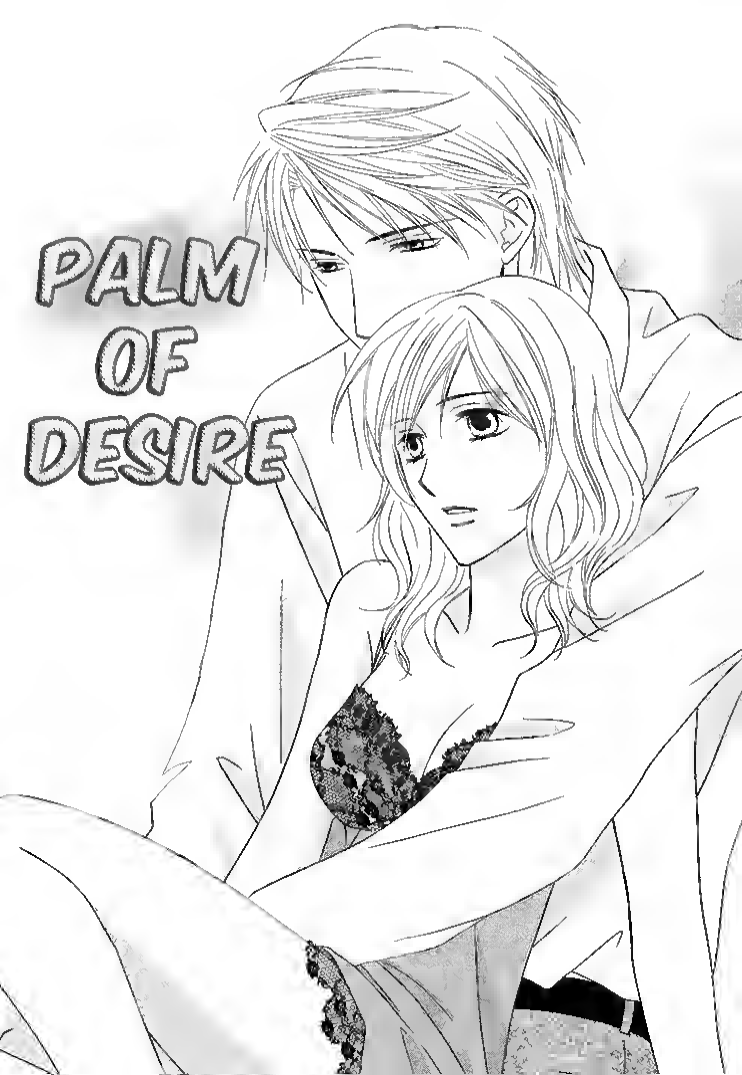
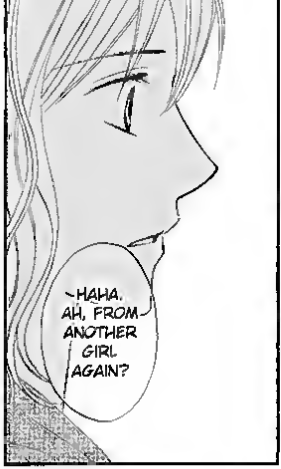

PALM
OF
DESIRE

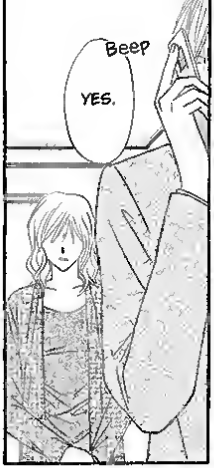
When I was ten years old, my parents died in an accident and left me without a single relative.
However, there was one large hand that kindly took mine.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, HIROKO.
I WILL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU, NO MATTER WHAT.
From that day on, that hand became my everything.
DO WANT TO GO TO SHIBUYA ON THE WAY HOME?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, HIROKO? WANT TO COME ALONG?
AH, SORRY.
MY BROTHER IS RETURNING FROM HIS BUSINESS TRIP TODAY, SO I'LL BE GOING STRAIGHT HOME

WELL THEN, SEE YOU TOMORROW!
O-OKAY.
After my parents died...
I was taken in by a wealthy family that was closely acquainted with my father.
It's been ten years since then, and I'm in university now.
HELLO, I'M BACK.
WELCOME HOME.
But more important than anything...
HAS BROTHER AKINAO RETURNED YET?
YES, HE ARRIVED NOT TOO LONG AGO.
OPEN

Brother Akinao, welcome back!
HIROKO.
I'VE BEEN SO LONELY THIS WEEK.
CHUCKLE
OH, YOU WERE? SORRY ABOUT THAT.
HAVE YOU BEEN A GOOD GIRL?

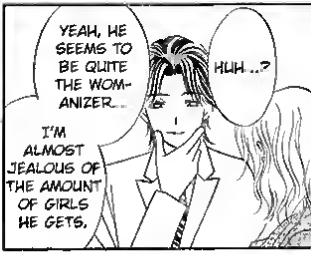
He's the most important person in my life.
YOU TWO ARE AS CLOSE AS EVER.
His gentle touch and smile haven't changed ever since.
TSUMORI-SAN!
This is Brother Akinao's friend.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HIROKO-CHAN.
SORRY, WERE YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING IMPORTANT?
NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT.
SHOULD WE EAT OUT TODAY?
RILING


~HAHA. AH, FROM ANOTHER GIRL AGAIN?


Beep
YES.

EXCUSE ME.

LATELY, HE'S BEEN GETTING MORE AND MORE MARRIAGE PROPOSALS.
HE MIGHT BE MARRYING SOON, I GUESS.


YEAH, HE SEEMS TO BE QUITE THE WOMANIZER...
I'M ALMOST JEALOUS OF THE AMOUNT OF GIRLS HE GETS.
HUH ..?

AH...
WELL, HE'S ALREADY THIRTY-THREE, AFTER ALL.

Three years ago, Brother Akinao's parents passed away shortly after each other.
.....
He's caring for me as my guardian, but...
He succeeded in their business, which is why we live in this mansion together.
CLANG
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, HIROKO?
NO, IT'S NOTHING.
He's so gentle.
HM?
YOU HAVEN'T EATEN ANY-THING. IS SOMETHING WRONG?

I know he's dated various women until now,
but he never got to the point of discussing marriage.
He's probably concerned about me.
AREN'T YOU COLD, HIROKO?
NO, I'M FINE.
But being looked after like this...
has become painful lately.
Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence
Knock
Knock

OPEN
Hiroko!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHY ARE YOU HERE SO LATE AT NIGHT?
PLEASE LET ME SLEEP IN YOUR ROOM.
WHAT?
I JUST HAD A BAD DREAM, ALL RIGHT?
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED...

HEY, BIG BROTHER...
HM?
ARE YOU.. GOING TO GET MARRIED?
Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence
WHY ARE YOU ASKING?
TSUMORI-SAN SAID YOU'VE BEEN GETTING A LOT OF MARRIAGE PROPOSALS LATELY
SO THAT'S WHY?
I HAVEN'T GIVEN IT ANY THOUGHT AT ALL.

I'LL BE BY YOUR SIDE...
UNTIL YOU DON'T NEED ME ANYMORE.
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY.
PAT
IT'S JUST THAT, FOR ME,
THERE'S NO ONE MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOU RIGHT NOW.
IDIOT.
THAT'S NOT IT.
YOU'RE NOT GETTING MARRIED BECAUSE OF ME?

If that were true, there wouldn't be anything left for me to wish for.
"Important."
yet I'm still unsatisfied.
Nonetheless, he treats me as if I'll break at the slightest touch.
Because I'm...
It's irritating and lonely.
in love with him.
TSUMORI-SAN

BROTHER AKINAO IS AT THE OFFICE RIGHT NOW
I SEE .. I'LL STOP BY AGAIN LATER, THEN.
AH, RIGHT.
IT SEEMS LIKE AKINAO'S MARRIAGE DISCUSSIONS ARE PROGRESSING
BA-THUMP
WHAT?
BUT HE SAID HE HADN'T GIVEN IT ANY THOUGHT...
WELL, YES... HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE TOO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IT,
POUR
BUT HE SEEMS TO BE HAVING TROUBLE TURNING THE PROPOSAL DOWN THIS TIME,
WHICH PUTS HIM IN A DIFFICULT POSITION.
Decadence
A satisfaction of Transcendence

I know that...
And I'm not in any position to become his lover, let alone wife.
we can't stay like this forever.
But...
At the very least...
WHAT IS IT?
DID YOU HAVE A BAD DREAM AGAIN?
.....

Decadence
A subsection of Transcendance

Even if it's only physical...
I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME,
BIG BROTHER.
Even if it's only for a little while,

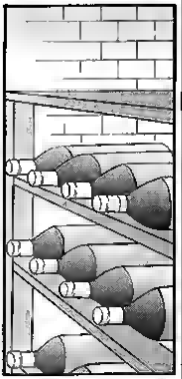
I want to become 'the one' for the person I like.
WE CAN'T, HIROKO...
WHY NOT?
YOU PLAYED AROUND WITH OTHER GIRLS, TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
.....
Just this once, I won't let you take responsibility!
Hiroko!

WE CAN'T DO...SUCH A THING.
YOU'RE NOT LIKE THE OTHER GIRLS.
YOU'RE NOT THAT KIND OF GIRL TO ME.
I CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT WITH YOU.
I WANT YOU TO DO THAT WITH SOMEONE YOU LOVE DEEPLY

Why is he telling me to do it with someone else?
There's only one person whom I love this deeply.
PLEASE GO TO SLEEP NOW
Why?
CLOSE
sigh
Even if we don't bond, can't he just take my body?

That's my wish,

but it won't be granted...



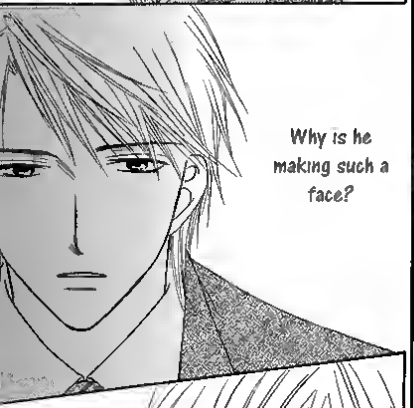
sigh
Brother Akinao's been the same,
yet I feel like I'm at a dead end.
HIROKO-CHAN.
Ever since then...
SORRY, I'LL COME UP RIGHT AWAY..
IT'S FINE, ACTUALLY.
I'M OKAY WITH ANYTHING.
TSUMORI-SAN.
YOU WERE GONE FOR QUITE SOME TIME, SO I GOT WORRIED... SHALL I HELP YOU?

SPLASH
No... Let me–
I LIKE YOU, HIROKO-CHAN.
IN FACT, I'M MORE INTERESTED IN YOU THAN THE WINE.
IF IT WERE AKINAO, YOU WOULDN'T STRUGGLE, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T BE ROUGH.
...!
I don't care any-more...

I can't have the person I want the most anyway.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HIROKO?
Tsumori!
You...
!

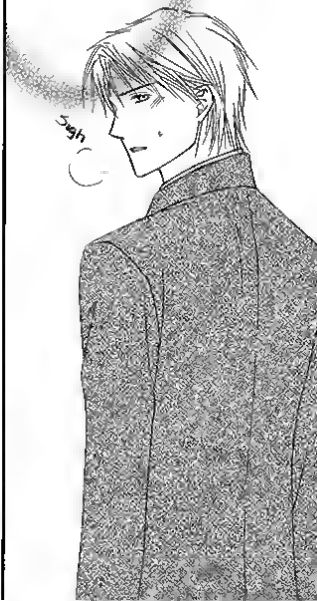
SMACK
?!
How dare you...
touch Hiroko with those filthy hands!
Get out of here, immediately!
UGH.
No way...

HIROKO, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
Why...?


Why is he making such a face?

IT WAS FINE, THOUGH.

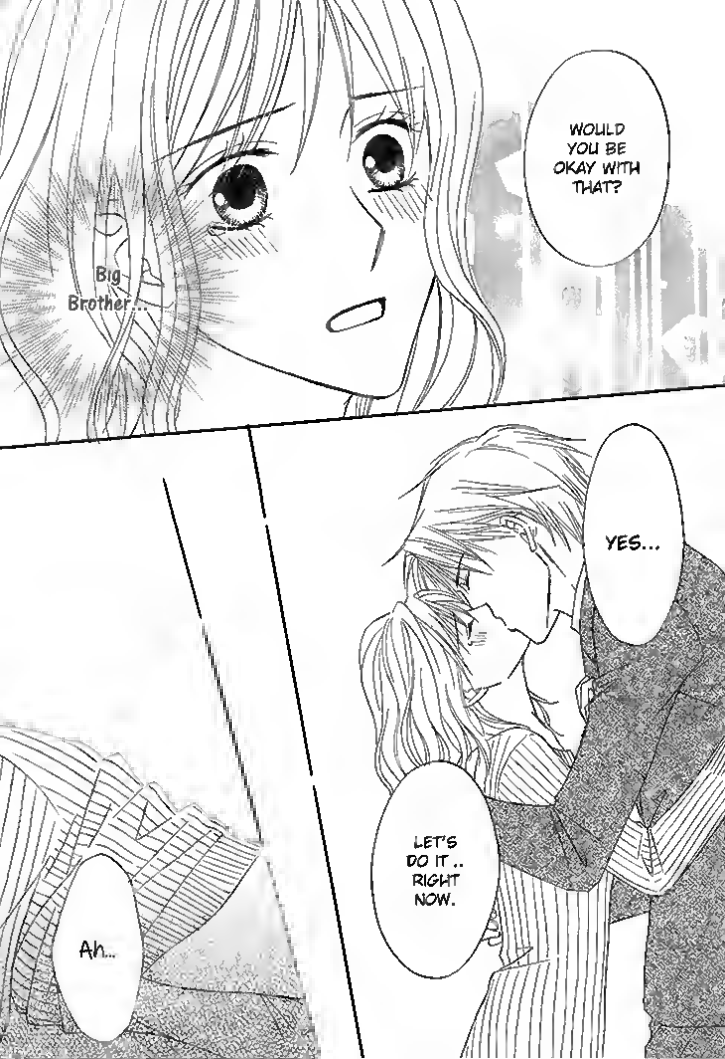
STOMP STOMP
He's so angry...


Sigh

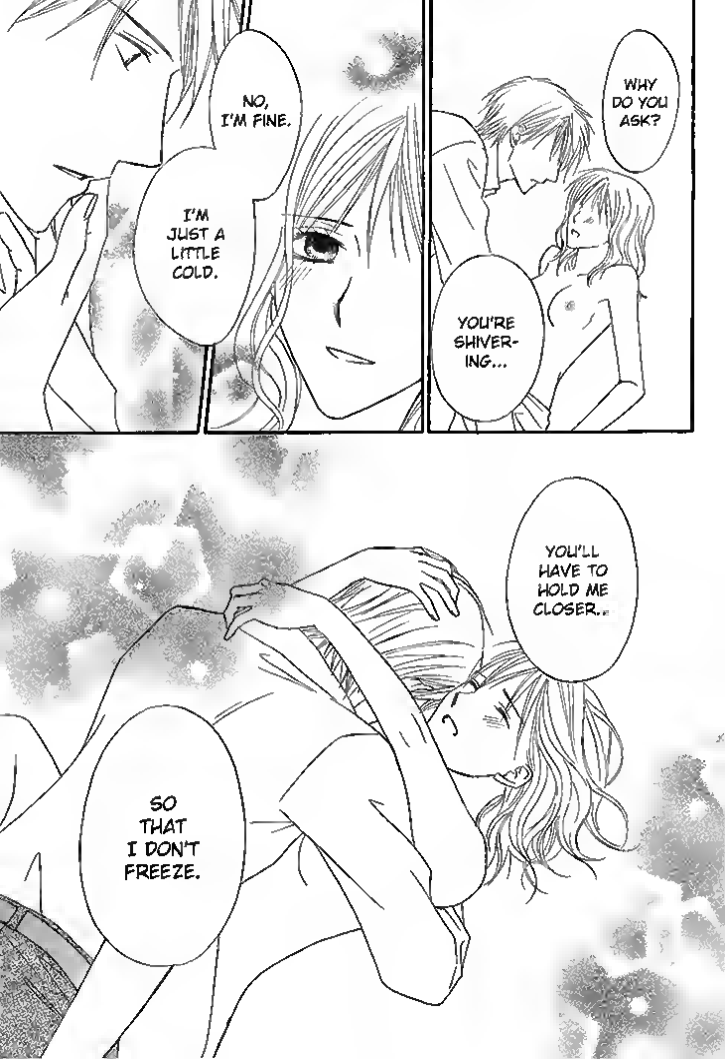
My body won't be held by the person I like, anyway.
It doesn't matter what becomes of me!
WHAT ?
WHY DID YOU HELP ME?
HIROKO, WHAT...
I like you!

I LIKE YOU..
I CAN'T HELP MY-SELF.
I know it's foolish to wish for us...
HIROKO...

What?
AND HERE I WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO RESTRAIN MYSELF...
IF WE WERE TO EMBRACE EACH OTHER, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LET YOU GO ANYMORE.
I'D WANT YOU TO BECOME MY WIFE.
HIROKO, YOU'RE SPECIAL TO ME.
I CAN'T TREAT YOU LIKE ANY ORDINARY GIRL.


Big Brother...
WOULD YOU BE OKAY WITH THAT?
YES...
LET'S DO IT.. RIGHT NOW.
Ah...

Haa...
Hnn...
KISS
Ah...
I never knew that his hands could be so passionate...
ARE YOU AFRAID?
The hand that used to pat my head gently...
is roughly touching my body right now.
Decadence
A Collection of Transcendence


NO, I'M FINE.
I'M JUST A LITTLE COLD.
WHY DO YOU ASK?
YOU'RE SHIVER-ING...
YOU'LL HAVE TO HOLD ME CLOSER..
SO THAT I DON'T FREEZE.

Ah.

I don't ever want to let go of your hand again.

Let me be yours for all eternity...

×The End×

CREDITS

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QUALITY CHECKER: `ROZE`

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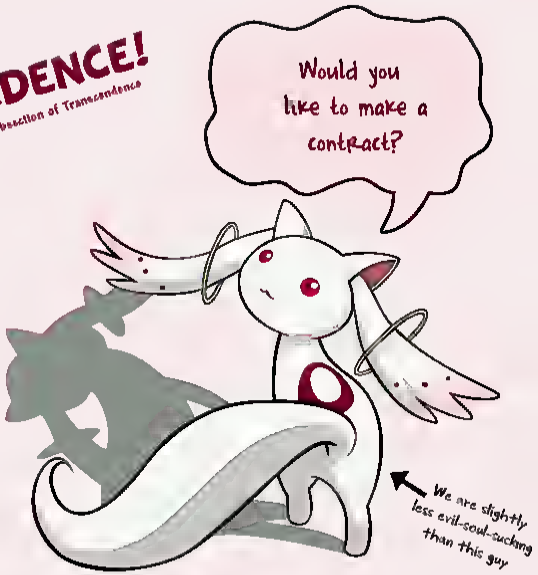
Ai bu de zirashite

Risa Aoyama presents

JOiN DECADENCE!

A subsection of Transcendence



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